

SHENANDOAH HERALD
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WOODSTOCK, VA.
Practice in the Courts of Shenandoah,
Rockingham, Page, Frederick and War-
ren counties, also in the Court of Appeals
of Virginia and in the United States Dis-
trict Court.
Special attention given to the collection
of claims. May 15, '84-1.

ALEXANDER & WUNDER,
Attorneys-at-Law,
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Prompt attention to all legal busi-
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Mr. Alexander will attend regularly all
the County and Circuit Courts of Shenandoah
county. Feb. 25, '94-1.

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and District Courts of the United States.
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July 21-1.

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Nov. 25, '90-1.

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Practice in all the Courts and can meet
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on Court day or at any time parties may
wish.

DR. J. B. RUSH,
Dentist.
WOODSTOCK, VA.
Established in 1859. Office near Court
House. Terms Cash. May 2-1.

DR. T. F. LOCKE,
Resident Dentist.
Office, Main St., Woodstock, Va.
Chloroform, ether and cocaine used
for painless extraction of teeth.
Dec. 31-1.

DR. J. M. BROWN,
Has resumed his practice at
TOM'S BROOK, VIRGINIA.
Prompt attention will be given to all
cases, from his old patients in the Fort, on
Cedar Creek or near home.
Mar. 25-1.

ESTABLISHED 1872.
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WHOLESALE
Produce Commission Merchants
925 Louisiana Avenue,
Washington, D. C.
Solicit shipments of every marketable
product—in winter what of the Farm
Dairy, Poultry and Stock Yard. Shippers
paid daily the highest wholesale price.
27 years (over 20 in this city) of suc-
cessful experience is guarantee of our business
ability to handle shipments satisfactorily.
Refer to proprietor of HERALD and City
and National Bank of Washington citi-
zens. 120 Mar. '85-1.

Shenandoah Female Institute
WOODSTOCK, VIRGINIA.
Mrs. J. H. WILLIAMS, Principal.
Fourteenth annual session. Term begin-
SEPTEMBER 15th, 1895.
McAfee and Lovett,
Barbers,
Main street, opposite the clothing
store of Hickey & Atwell.
Prompt and polite attention at
reasonable prices.
Nov. 1-1.

For sale by
T. B. RICHEY
WOODSTOCK
MARBLE WORKS,
WOODSTOCK, VA.
Monuments, Tombs and all kinds
of Cemetery Work.
Lowest prices in the Valley. Give me
a call.
E. U. SNYDER.
Aug. 30-1.

WOODSTOCK
MARBLE WORKS,
WOODSTOCK, VA.
Monuments, Tombs and all kinds
of Cemetery Work.
Lowest prices in the Valley. Give me
a call.
E. U. SNYDER.
Aug. 30-1.

HUMPHREYS'
No. 1 Cures Fever.
No. 2 " Worms.
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Sold by Druggists, or sent prepaid on
receipt of price, 25c., or 5c. for 50.
The Humphreys' Homeopathic Manual
of Diseases. Mailed Free.
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U. S. Grant and R. E. Lee.
A Comparison, by a Northern Soldier.
Plutarch, after writing the lives
of two persons like Agesilaus and
Pompey, or Aristides and the elder
Cato, says the next thing is to com-
pare them and bring together the
points in which they chiefly dis-
agree.

While Abraham Lincoln and
Jefferson Davis, on account of
the official positions they held, as
well as by reason of their great
ability and force of character, will,
doubtless, for all time occupy the
most prominent place in the po-
litical history of America for the
four years covered by the civil war,
it is equally certain that U. S.
Grant and Robert E. Lee will al-
ways be recognized as the most
distinguished of the great captains
whose achievements and failures
constitute the military history of
the most formidable unsuccessful
rebellion on record.

Though both of them were train-
ed in the same military school, be-
longed to the same army, and serv-
ed in the only war in which their
country was engaged during their
lives prior to the war of the
Rebellion, yet in respect of
lineage, family associations, and
surroundings they were not all
alike. While it is true that Grant's
name is one of the most honorable
in Scottish history, it is equally
true that his own family had no
public record, his father being a
tradesman and his ancestry un-
distinguished, almost unknown.

Of Lee, on the contrary, it can
be truly said, there is no Ameri-
can whose name and family have
been more illustrious. From the
time of Charles the First, when
his ancestor, Richard Lee, came to
America and became the secretary
of the commonwealth under Sir
William Berkeley, Governor, there
has been no period in the two
centuries and a half since in which
the Lees have not been among the
most distinguished citizens of Vir-
ginia. A Lee was the first native
governor of the commonwealth; a
Lee moved the adoption in the
Colonial Convention of the Declara-
tion of Independence; a Lee, by
the unanimous vote of Congress,
delivered the funeral eulogy upon
Washington, and uttered the for-
ever memorable words, "sublimely
comprehensive of the highest
human greatness, 'First in war,
first in peace, first in the hearts of
his countrymen.'"

The general moral maxim, *de
mortuis nil nisi bonum*—of the dead
speak only praise—has no rightful
place in history, and, moreover,
has no need to be observed even
by the panegyrist of either Grant
or Lee.

There has been as yet no critical
or even impartial biography writ-
ten of either of them. In reading
some of those extant, we are re-
minded of Plutarch's comment on
Xenophon's account of the victories
of Agesilaus: "Xenophon has the
privilege allowed him that he may
write or speak what he pleases in
favor of his heroes."

ter and antecedents upon which to
rest a prophecy of his future re-
nown. Yet from absolute obscur-
ity, in a single year by his own
acts, he rose above all the generals
in the Western Union Armies, and
from an unknown clerk in a coun-
try store, in three years he made
himself the most conspicuous mili-
tary figure in the whole world; a
soldier commanding larger armies
and infinitely more powerful in de-
structive force than the armies of
Alexander, Caesar, and Napoleon
combined. After all the truest
psychometers to measure military
genius are the standards taken
from the enemy. Yet all soldiers
known how much there is in war,
especially as applied to officers, of
what we call luck; and it can not
be denied that, in some respects,
Grant's career furnishes remark-
able illustration of this truth.

His fame began with Donelson;
yet the completeness of his victory
there was equally to his credit and
to the discredit of the enemy, for,
had Stonewall Jackson command-
ed in place of Buckner, no one be-
lieves that Donelson would not
have been either evacuated or de-
fended.

Moreover, had Shiloh been
Grant's first battle it would have
been his last; for it was the rep-
utation of Donelson that carried
him over the disaster at Shiloh. A
commander, who, knowing he is
liable to be attacked by an equal
if not superior foe before refor-
mations shall reach him, and yet
who neglects to intrench, and
thereby suffers terrible and un-
necessary loss in repulsing the
enemy, could hardly trust to such
a victory for promotion or even for
justification. But General Smith
was too old and ill to be ambitious
for the highest command—Sher-
man, Sheridan, McPherson, and
Logan were yet undistinguished—
and Washburn, who had the ear of
the President, insisted that Grant,
so far as he could judge, was after
all the best General we had. Yet,
had the result at Shiloh been what
it might have been under a more
vigilant commander, it would have
inspired such confidence both in
the country and army that a year
and a quarter would not have
elapsed between Shiloh and Vicks-
burg.

For in that year, with over two
hundred thousand men in the
Western armies, the best equipped
and as brave as any commander
could desire, we had accomplished
nothing. The men, as always, did
good fighting at Corinth and Iuka,
but seemingly to no purpose. The
press of the country blamed the
government for failure in the field,
and demanded the appointment of
competent commanders, and in-
sisted that the army should go
ahead and conquer the Rebellion.
The Western farmers knew their
boys would fight if they had a
chance, and win if ably command-
ed. But the government did not
know how to trust, and dare not
command the army to advance.
But Grant feared the guns that
lined the shore at Vicksburg.
Previous months were spent in
trying to dig that canal, that
floated the troops past the bat-
teries. Finally, the country talked
so loud and threateningly that he
was compelled to either resign or
get behind Vicksburg in some way.
On the first trial he found he could
pass the city with his transports.
He might have done so months be-
fore. Hannibal, Frederick, or
Napoleon would have invested
Vicksburg in 1862.

Thus, in the summer of 1862
and the winter following, while Lee
was driving McClellan from before
Richmond, defeating Pope at Ma-
nassas, and Burnside at Fredericks-
burg, and was even threatening
Washington itself, Grant was ac-
complishing nothing to relieve the
gloom that was settling over the
country. Up to this time, at any
rate, he had not exhibited to the
country the really great military
talents which Sherman, McPherson,
and Logan, his ablest generals,
could already see that he possessed.
But when, against the advice
of all his generals, he began the
Vicksburg campaign, his bold,
rapid, brilliant strategy, all his
own, which resulted in the speedy
downfall of the great stronghold of
Rebellion in the West, demonstrated
his real greatness as a com-
mander, and filled the country
with enthusiastic confidence in his
ability to cope successfully with
the ablest of the Western Confed-
erate Generals.

The Vicksburg campaign did
more than this; it changed, as if
by magic, the morale of the op-

posing armies, transferring to the
Union troops the hitherto confi-
dence of the Confederate soldier.
In doing this, Grant made certain
the ultimate downfall of the Re-
bellion. Missionary Ridge con-
firmed that confidence, notwith-
standing the blunders of the enemy
as much as the genius of the Union
General made that victory easier
than he expected. Donelson,
Vicksburg, and Missionary Ridge
were the chief laurels with which
Grant was crowned when he went
to meet Lee.

The war had been in progress
for a year before Lee had done any-
thing worthy of the public ex-
pectation of him. His West Vir-
ginia campaign against Rosecrans
had even damaged the reputation
he had gained in Mexico years be-
fore. But the battle of Fair Oaks,
in May, 1862, showed the Army
of Northern Virginia that the loss
of Johnston was not, as they sup-
posed, irreparable. The seven days
of carnage ending at Malvern Hill
—in which terrible battles, almost
unexampled in history, one is at
a loss which more to admire, the
heroism of the persistent attack or
the stubborn mastery defense and
retreat—changed the hope of the
Southern soldiers into enthusiastic
confidence in their new commander.
The second Manassas, in August,
qualified later by Antietam, but
followed by Frederick in December,
closed a campaign which left no
doubt of the extraordinary re-
sources and talents of General Lee.
The victory at Chancellorsville in
the succeeding May was not for-
gotten even in the great disaster
that followed so soon at Gettys-
burg, so that, when the campaign
of 1863 closed, Lee was universally
regarded as the ablest of the Con-
federate commanders. It must
however, be admitted that the
Maryland campaign which ended
in the battle on Antietam, was
both a political and military blun-
der. The immediate retreat of the
Confederate commander across
the Potomac, after sustaining a
loss in battle he could not afford,
was the first serious damper upon
the exuberant and well-earned con-
fidence in its own invincible
prowess of the Army of Northern
Virginia. Still more indefensible,
both from a political and military
standpoint, and far more disas-
trous to the Southern cause, was
the invasion of Pennsylvania, so
suddenly and successfully arrested
by General Meade at Gettysburg,
which battle was a strategic blun-
der on the part of General Lee,
and a real defeat, however leisu-
rally, masterly, and successful his re-
treat. When he found that the
Federal commander, from whatever
cause, by whomsoever's fault, had
with a superior force secured much
the advantage in position, he
should have withdrawn from
Gettysburg and awaited the attack
upon more equal ground, as coun-
sel to do by his ablest generals.
The third day's battle there, in
which he vainly hurled his heroic
columns against Hancock's in-
trenchments upon Cemetery Hill,
and sacrificed the flower of his
army in a charge glorious and im-
mortal as any thing in history, but
futile and fatal, will forever remain
a cloud on the military fame of
General Lee, and marked the turn-
ing point in the Confederate cause.
Yet his conduct there was but the
exaggeration of the very quality
which distinguished both Lee and
Grant, and made them great; that
is unwavering confidence, unflin-
tering resolution, the one indispen-
sable quality, and always predom-
inant in all the great captains of
history. In battle the real con-
queror is without sentiment or pity,
and knows that war is cruelty
personified; that success and suc-
cess alone are the only goals, and
that the moral questions have all
been settled before he puts on his
sword. Lee saw and confessed the
mistake of Gettysburg, and, in a
silent agony of sympathy with his
brave men, took all the blame.
They forgave, trusted, and loved
him still.

It must be admitted that when
the two great captains met face
to face upon the Rapidan, in May,
1864, Lee's reputation rested upon
more battles fought, bloody, ter-
rible battles, and victories won
against greater odds, than could
be claimed for Grant.

For three long years the whole
power of the Federal government,
with its unlimited resources, had
not been able to reach the capital of
the Confederacy, and when Grant
took command of all the Northern
armies, Richmond seemed to be
really less in danger than Wash-
ington.

The maxim, "better is the place
of the defendant," is as true in war
as in law, and is especially ap-
plicable in a country like that be-
tween the Rapidan and the James.
Moreover, modern earthworks, de-
fended by modern artillery and re-
peating rifles, are much more dif-
ficult of successful assault than
were Rodrigo, Badajoz, or Al-
buera, where Wellington won so
much renown in his Peninsular
campaign.

When Grant crossed the Rapi-
dan he found he had a different
army, under a much able leader,
to contend with than any he had
before. In the battle of the
Wilderness, after repeated attacks,
in which the Union troops, led by
the ablest corps and division com-
manders, displayed prodigies of
heroic, stubborn valor, and cov-
ered the ground for miles with the
dead of both armies, Grant was
repulsed, defeated, and compelled
to retreat, and leave the field in
possession of the enemy; and the
killed, wounded, and missing of
the Union army largely outnum-
bered the Confederate loss. But
Grant was determined; he was un-
used to defeat; he proposed to
"fight it out on that line, if it took
all summer," regardless, seem-
ingly, of the fearful cost. For the first
time in his life, however, he tried
to avoid the enemy, and by a flank
movement to reach Spottsylvania
Court-house. But when he arrived
there and was prepared to assault,
Lee was ready, intrenched, and
awaiting the assault, which was as
heroic, as persistent, as deadly as
that in the Wilderness, and as un-
successful. At the expense of
over fifty thousand men Grant
learned that in that kind of war-
fare Lee was invincible. The bat-
tle at Cold Harbor, fought within
a month, ended the bloodiest
campaign in history, and the
Federal General, abandoning the
attempt to take Richmond by as-
sault, withdrew to the south of the
James, and began the long cam-
paign of siege and starvation.

He could have placed his army
south of the James three months
sooner than he did, and without
the loss of the sixty thousand men
who fought their last battle be-
tween the Rapidan and the James
and that, too, without danger to
Washington.

After the siege of Richmond be-
gan the repeated and unavailing
assaults of the Union army upon
the Confederate lines, extending
as they did for a distance of over
thirty miles, and defended by less
than fifty thousand men, are the
best evidence of the skill of their
commander, as well as the valor of
the besieged. Not until the fol-
lowing year, and until his base of
supplies was threatened by other
converging Union armies, was Lee
compelled to evacuate the city.

Had it not been for the approach
of Sherman from the south, and
the brilliant and effective campaign
of Sheridan in which he easily
routed the force sent by Lee to
protect his communication with
Lynchburg, there is no telling how
long the Confederate capital
might have held out.

The defense of Richmond will
always stand out in history as one
of the most remarkable military
achievements of any age.

It is true that Grant's men had
confidence in their commander, and
in his ultimate success, it is not
true that they had equal confi-
dence in his strategy. His pun-
ing methods, so prodigal of life,
inspired no personal enthusiasm
or attachment. Lee, on the con-
trary, had the profoundest sym-
pathy, even the heartfelt affection of
his men. They would die for him
even sooner than for the cause on
which they had staked their all.
He embodied their ideal, both of
manhood and military skill.

The Confederate camp was full
of stories, either true or apocryphal
proving his personal sympathy
with them in their sufferings, and
his mastery superiority as a gen-
eral. This enthusiastic confidence
in a measure supplied the place of
numbers and achieved victories
were only defeat seemed inevi-
table. In this highest military qual-
ity that inspires the unquestioning
devotion of his soldiers, Lee was
indeed one of the most remarkable
generals of any age.

feels the assurance of victory in
the very hour of disaster. He will
also say that in mental power, in
the capacity for rapid combination
in strategic invention, which is
seen in the skillful disposition of
his troops before and in battle, in
the genius that enables a general
with inferior numbers to gain the
stronger position, and to have
more men at the critical point and
moment, and especially in the
power of personally inspiring his
men to endure and achieve, Lee
was beyond question the greater
commander.

In character they had many
points of resemblance. Each was
modest and unassuming; and while
fully realizing the vast responsi-
bility resting upon him, involving
life and empire, and conscious that
his every act and utterance were
looked at and listened to by the
whole world with intensest inter-
est, yet neither of them betrayed a
sign of halting or ever exhibited
the least spirit of arrogance or
vainglory. Both of them were
men of the highest integrity, and
were equally incorruptible; both
were devoted husbands, and kind,
indulgent fathers; both were
statesmen of the largest views,
comprehending the issues of the
war, and the terms and value of
the peace that followed.

The memorabilia of Grant, spoken
from his death-chair in the long
agony of dissolution, have added
much to the value of the legacy he
has left his country. To Stoic
and Christian alike his death will
be the most affecting illus-
tration of heroic philosophy and
Christian faith. To the exultant
North, flushed with victory and
desiring revenge, he had proclaimed
in the hour of triumph, "Let us
have peace," and he died with
that prayer for his country upon
his lips.

The closing years of Lee's life re-
call what Plato says of the nobility
wisdom, and clemency of the great
Socrates. His memorable words
at Appomattox, spoken to his sor-
rowing comrades about to depart
for their ravaged, desolate homes,
interpret the high completeness of
the character of this most remark-
able man: "Haman virtue should
be equal to human calamity." This
noble sentiment, his parting
benevolence to his army so com-
pletely illustrated in his own life,
and in the loyalty and prosperity
of the South, will forever attest
the beneficent influence of his
great example.

Henry Strong.

Russia to Keep Its Wheat.
Philadelphia, Aug. 22.—Word
has been received at this port that
the Russian government is medita-
ting the promulgation of a decree
prohibiting the export of wheat,
going to the small crops in
Southern Russia.

The effect of this contemplated
action would be to create a strong
demand for tonnage in the Black
sea, so that as much grain as is
possible may be shipped before the
prohibition takes effect. This
itself would be calculated to
force up freights on vessels loading
here.

A well-known shipping man in
this city said that this contem-
plated action of the Russian govern-
ment makes it an almost settled
fact that Europe must look to the
United States alone to fill her or-
ders for cereals. Just what re-
crease of business this means for
Philadelphia, New York and Bal-
timore alone is incalculable.

The exports of grain from Phila-
delphia which already are the
largest on record, will reach figures
in excess of what has been the
most sanguine expectation of
shippers.

JOB'S ACHING TOOTH.
HE ALSO HAD BOILS, BANKRUPTCY
AND A FOOL OF A WIFE.

But He Finally Escaped, Body and Soul,
From His Troubles, and Rev. Dr. Tal-
mage Shows That Thousands of Others
May Be Similarly Saved.

NEW YORK, Aug. 22.—In this dis-
course of Dr. Talmage is mighty en-
couragement for many who consider
their own case hopeless. His text is Job
xix, 20, "I am escaped with the skin of
my teeth."
Job had it hard. What with boils
and bereavements and bankruptcy and
a fool of a wife he wished he were dead,
and I do not blame him. His flesh was
gone, and his bones were dry. His teeth
wasted away until nothing but the
enamel seemed left. He cries out, "I
am escaped with the skin of my teeth."
There has been some difference of
opinion about this passage. St. Jerome
and Schultens and Dr. Good and Poole
and Barnes have all tried their forces
on Job's teeth. You deny my interpre-
tation and say, "What did Job know
about the enamel of the teeth?" He
knew everything about it. Dental sur-
geons are almost as old as the earth. The
mummies of Egypt thousands of years
old are found today with gold filling in
their teeth. Ovid and Horace and Solo-
mon and Moses wrote about these im-
portant factors of the body. To other
provoking complaints Job I think, has
added an exasperating toothache, and
putting his hand against the inflamed
face, he says, "I am escaped with the
skin of my teeth."

A very narrow escape, you say, for
Job's body and soul, but there are thou-
sands of men who make just as narrow
escape for their soul. There was a time
when the partition between them and
ruin was no thicker than a tooth's
enamel, but as Job finally escaped so
have they. Thank God! Thank God!
Saved as by fire.

Paul expresses the same idea by a
different figure when he says that some
people are "saved as by fire." A vessel
at sea is in flames. You go to the stern
of the vessel. The boats have shoved
off. The flames advance. You can en-
dure the heat no longer on your face.
You slide down on the side of the ves-
sel and hold on with your fingers, until
the forked tongue of the fire begins to
lick the back of your hand, and you
feel that you must fall, when one of the
lifeboats comes back, and the passengers
more, the boatswain comes and says,
"Drop into it—you are saved. So some
men are pursued by temptation until
they are partially consumed, but after
all get off—"saved as by fire."

But I like the figure of Job a little
better than that of Paul, because the
pulpit has not worn it out, and I want
to show you, if God will help, that some
men make narrow escape for their souls
and are saved as "with the skin of their
teeth."

It is as easy for some people to look
to the cross as for you to look to this
pulpit. Mild, gentle, tractable, loving,
you expect them to become Christians.
You go over to the store and say,
"Gracious joined the church yester-
day." Your business comrades say,
"That is just what might have been
expected. He always was of that turn
of mind." In youth this person whom
I describe was always good. He never
broke things. He never laughed when
it was improper to laugh. At 7 he could
sit an hour in church, perfectly quiet,
looking neither to the right hand nor
to the left, but straight into the eyes of
the minister, as though he understood
the whole discussion about the eternal
doom. He never upset things nor lost
them. He floated into the kingdom of
God so gradually that it is uncertain
just when the matter was decided.

Difficulties in the Way.
Here is another one, who started in
life with an uncontrollable spirit. He
kept the nursery in an uproar. His
mother found him walking on the edge
of the house roof to see if he could bal-
ance himself. There was no horse that
he dared not ride, no tree he could not
climb. His boyhood was a long series
of predicaments, his manhood was reck-
less, his middle life very wayward. But
now he is converted, and you go over
to the store and say, "Arkwright joined
the church yesterday." Your friends
say, "It is not possible. You must be
joking." You say, "No, I tell you the
truth. He joined the church." Then
they reply, "There is hope for any of
us if old Arkwright has become a Chris-
tian." In other words, we will admit
that it is more difficult for some men to
accept the gospel than for others.

I may be preaching to some who have
cut loose from churches and Bibles and
Sundays, and who have no intention of
becoming Christians themselves, and
yet you may find yourself escaping be-
fore you leave this house as "with the
skin of your teeth." I do not expect to
waste this hour. I have seen boats go
off from Cape May or Long Branch and
drop their nets and after awhile come
ashore, pulling in the nets without hav-
ing caught a single fish. It was not the
good day, or they had not the right kind
of a net. But we expect no such excu-
sion to day. The water is full of fish,
the wind is in the right direction, the
gospel net is strong. O thou who didst
help Simon and Andrew to fish, show
us how to cast the net on the right side
of the ship!

Advertising Rates.
Advertisements will be inserted at
the rate of \$1.00 per square of ten lines or less, for
the first insertion, and 50 cents for each
subsequent insertion.
If quarterly or yearly advertisement
by contract.

Unless the number or insertion is
marked upon the manuscript, advertise-
ments will be published until forbidden
and charged accordingly.

Listen to two or three questions. Are
you as happy as you used to be when
you believed in the truth of the Chris-
tian religion? Would you like to have
your children travel on in the road in
which you are now traveling? You had
a relative who professed to be a Chris-
tian and was thoroughly consistent, liv-
ing and dying in the faith of the gos-
pel. Would you not like to live the
same quiet life and die the same peace-
ful death? I hold in my hand a letter,
sent me by one who has rejected the
Christian religion. He says: "I am old
enough to know that the joys and plea-
sures of life are evanescent and to real-
ize the fact that it must be comfortable
in old age to believe in something rela-
tive to the future and to have a faith
in some system that proposes to save.
I am free to confess that I would be hap-
pier if I could exercise the simple and
beautiful faith that is possessed by
many whom I know. I am not willingly
out of the church or out of the faith.
My state of uncertainty is one of un-
rest. Sometimes I doubt my immortali-
ty and look upon the death as the closing
scene, after which there is nothing.
What shall I do that I have not
done before? I am a skeptic in a dark and
doleful land. Let me say that this Bible
is either true or false. If it be false, we
are as well off as you; if it be true,
then which of us is safer?"

Let me also ask whether your trouble
has not been that you confounded Chris-
tianity with the inconsistent charac-
ter of some who profess it. You are a law-
yer. In your profession there are mean
and dishonest men. Is that anything
against the law? You are a doctor.
There are unskilled and contemptible
men in your profession. Is that any-
thing against medicine? You are a mer-
chant. There are thieves and defraud-
ers in your business. Is that anything
against merchandise? Behold, then, the
unfairness of charging upon Christianity
the wickedness of its disciples.

We admit some of the charges against those
who reject religion. Some of the most
magnificent swindlers of the present day
have been carried on by members of
the church.

There are men standing in the front
rank in the churches who would not be
trusted for \$5 without good collateral
security. They leave their business dis-
honored in the vestibule of the church
as they go in and sit at the communion.
Having committed the sin against the
gospel, they take the wine from their lips,
go out and take up their sins where they
left off. To serve the devil is their regu-
lar work, to serve God a sort of play
spell. With a Sunday sponge they ex-
pect to wipe off from their business slate
all the past week's inconsistencies. You
have no more right to take such a man's
life as a specimen of religion than you
have to take the life of a criminal and
call him a saint. He is on the beach at Cony
Island as a specimen of an American
ship. It is time that we draw a line be-
tween religion and the frailties of those
who profess it.

Do you not feel that the Bible, take
it all in all, is about the best book that
the world has ever seen? Do you know
any book that is as much in it? Do you
know any book that, upon the whole, that
its influence has been beneficent? I come
to you with both hands extended toward
you. In one hand I have the Bible and
in the other hand I have nothing. This
Bible in one hand I will surrender for-
ever just as soon as in my other hand
you can put a book that is better.

I invite you back into the good old
fashioned religion of the fathers, to
look neither to the right hand, nor to the
left, but straight into the eyes of the
minister, as though he understood
the whole discussion about the eternal
doom. He never upset things nor lost
them. He floated into the kingdom of
God so gradually that it is uncertain
just when the matter was decided.